



U.S. Department of Energy  
Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management



# Office of Logistics Management Update

Presented to:  
**Transportation External Coordination Working Group**

Presented by:  
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# Introduction

- **Office of Logistics Management (OLM) priorities**
- **Benchmarking studies**
- **Nevada Transportation Project**
- **Routing of Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management (OCRWM) shipments**
- **Social risk**
- **Sabotage studies**
- **Package performance study**
- **Tribal workshop**
- **Industry interactions**



# FY 2007 OLM Priorities

- Issue National Transportation Plan
- Complete draft *Environmental Impact Statement for a Rail Line to the Yucca Mountain Repository* (Rail SEIS)
- Publish draft Nuclear Waste Policy Act (NWPA) Section 180(c) policy
- Continue work on routing criteria for a preliminary national suite of routes
- Expand benchmarking efforts to identify best practices
- Coordinate with transportation, aging, and disposal canister system development effort



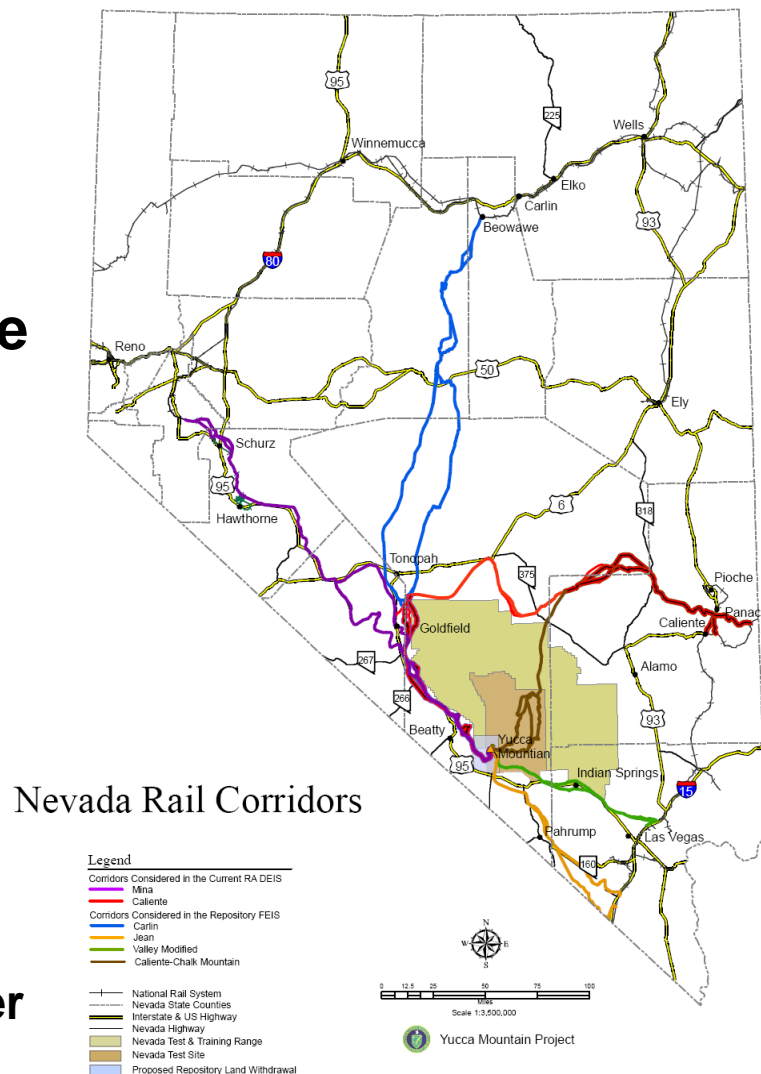
# Benchmarking Effort

- **Phase 1 study produced lessons learned report**
  - Consolidated experience and recommendations from past Department of Energy (DOE) shipping campaigns
  - Partners included
    - ◆ Waste Isolation Pilot Program
    - ◆ Naval Nuclear Propulsion Program
    - ◆ Foreign Research Reactor Program
  - Findings identified best practices and recommendations that were common across partner organizations
- **Later phases will evaluate business practices of domestic and foreign commercial shippers**



# Nevada Transportation Project Status

- The draft Rail SEIS is on schedule for publication and notice of availability in mid-October
- We are looking forward to working with our stakeholders and welcome their input
  - OLM plans to issue a formal comment-response document
- The Mina corridor analysis will be included in the draft Rail SEIS in response to comments during the scoping hearings
  - Walker River Paiute Tribe's decision removed the Mina corridor from further consideration



\*Nevada Rail Corridors Analyzed in the Yucca Mountain FEIS Plus Mina





# Nevada Transportation Project Near-term Milestones

- **2007 - Issue draft Rail SEIS**
- **2008 - Issue final Rail SEIS and Rail Alignment record of decision**
- **2009 – Rail design and construction activities begin**



# Objectives of Routing Process

- **Meet OCRWM Program goals and address stakeholder concerns**
  - Continue collaborative process with Program stakeholders in transportation planning
- **Implement strategic objectives of OCRWM Director**
- **Provide information to support implementation of NWPA Section 180(c)**
- **Address National Academies' recommendations**
  - DOE should continue to ensure effective involvement of states and tribal governments in its decisions on routing
  - DOE should identify suite of preferred rail and highway routes as soon as practicable to support state, tribal, and local planning



# Approach to Routing Process

- **OCRWM will work with corridor states and tribes to plan for shipments as other DOE programs have already done**
- **Department of Transportation (DOT) guidelines for selecting highway routes and standard railroad practices for routing will be the starting point**
  - **These criteria generated the representative routes analyzed in the Yucca Mountain FEIS**
- **OCRWM will provide opportunities for stakeholders to address local concerns within this framework**





# **Approach to Routing Process**

## **(continued)**

- **OCRWM will concentrate exercises and demonstration projects along identified routes**
  - **Goal is to increase public understanding of the relative risk these shipments pose**
- **In parallel, begin pilot projects to ensure the success of 180(c) implementation**
- **Planning grants will follow completion of the pilot projects**
  - ◆ **Intended to assess training needs**
- **Training grants will be awarded three years before the first shipment**



# Understanding Social Risk

- **The National Academies' Committee on Transportation of Radioactive Waste found**
  - No fundamental technical barriers to the safe transport of spent nuclear fuel (SNF) and high-level radioactive waste in the United States
  - U.S. regulations are adequate to ensure package containment effectiveness over a wide range of transport conditions
- **To proactively assess and manage “social risks,” OLM is evaluating mechanisms to engage the public on safety and security and on the general topic of relative risk**
  - Form Transportation External Coordination Working Group risk perception topic group to provide feedback on risk characterization and improved communications methods



# Sabotage Studies

- **OCRWM is a partner in the multilateral agreement with France, Germany, and the United Kingdom to study the impacts of attacks on SNF shipments**
  - **Nuclear Regulatory Commission (NRC) and DOT are also partners**
- **Tests will measure the effects of an attack on SNF to assess the consequences**
  - **The consequences may be an order of magnitude less than current, conservative estimates suggest**
- **Accurate and defensible assessment of the consequences and appropriate mitigations will address one area of stakeholder concern**



# NRC's Package Performance Study

- **OCRWM is committed to supporting NRC's planned Package Performance Study**
- **The current test protocol involves a locomotive collision with a rail cask**
- **To maximize the benefit of the study, OCRWM suggested overlaying the test with an emergency response exercise**
  - **Involving emergency responders in a realistic, severe accident scenario is an excellent opportunity to affirm the contribution the cask makes to ensuring public health and safety**
- **Involvement of emergency responders in the test will increase the potency of the safety message**
- **The test will not take place in the near term**
  - **OCRWM plans to begin funding in 2009**



# Tribal Workshop Update

- **Hosted a transportation workshop in April 2007 in Denver, Colorado, for the 49 potentially impacted tribes**
  - Informed tribes on the transportation project
  - Provided a venue for engaging tribes
  - 53 tribal members representing 33 tribes attended
- **Provided tribal members a resource handbook that included**
  - DOE and OCRWM specific policy documents
  - Fact sheets and background information
  - Maps of potential routes, impacted tribes, and utility sites
  - Other relevant information
- **Department of Interior recently conferred “Affected Indian tribe” status to the Timbisha Shoshone Tribe**



# Industry Interactions

- **Comments requested from potential vendors on approaches to design, construction and operation of a railroad in Nevada**
  - Responses due to DOE by August 15, 2007
  - Meetings will be scheduled with designers
- **Before moving forward with other transportation procurements, OLM plans to engage the industry**





# QUESTIONS

